Statement

Details of Memorandum and corrective action taken

	Points in the memorandum	Action taken
(1)	At present the telephone subscribers are only being provided with consolidated bills. The subscribers has been demanding details of the STD calls made by them.	The exchange installed at Mohlla does not have Technical facility to provide detailed billing. Such Technical facility is generally available in begger Telephone Systems.
(2)	There is an echo in the line whenever a call is received and as a result there is disturbance and the speech is not audible.	The satellite link was having echo problem which has since been rectified.
(3)	The cable at the pillar had broken off in May'97. It nearly a year now and the cable has not been repaired, on the cable has been joined with a tape.	The cable at the pillar has been attended to.
(4)	There is no Telegraph office (to receive telegrams) at Mohlla and as a result the telegrams have to be received and routed through Ambargarh Chowki which is time consuming.	Telegraph services at Mohlla is provided through a combined Post Office. The Postal Department has been reguested to ensure prompt booking and delivery of Telegrams.

Inclusion of Environment Protection in Syllabus

855. SHRI PANKAJ CHOUDHRY :
SHRI RAMPAL SINGH :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to include environment protection as a compulsory subject in the syllabus of schools/colleges;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI) : (a) Environmental protection has always been an integral part of the school curricula developed by NCERT at every stage of school education. The National Policy on Education adopted in 1986 (and modified in 1992) identified protection of the environment as one of the components of core curriculum to be followed throughout the country. It has been emphasized in the National Curriculum for Elementary and Secondary Education—A Framework brought out by NCERT in 1988 and the Guidelines and Syllabuses for various stages of school education in different subjects as well as the textbooks which NCERT brought out. Environment protection has, thus, already become a major component of school curriculum syllabuses and textbooks and the work in this area has progressed for beyond the stage of a proposal.

There is no proposal with the University Grants Commission to include Environmental protection as a compulsory subject in the syllabus of colleges. However, the University Grants Commission has introduced Environment Science as one of the subjects under the scheme of Vocational Courses in the area of Environment and Water Management at the first degree level in the universities and colleges. 11 colleges have been assisted so far. As a follow-up action on the Supreme Court judgement in November, 1991 the UGC is providing financial assistance to selected universities/colleges for introduction of an optimal/special paper in Environment Science at Post Graduate level under the scheme of assistance to Courses in Emerging areas. So far, the UGC has provided assistance to 70 universities/colleges for implementing this programme.

(b) and (c) : Do not arise.

Amendments to Basel Ban

856. SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India, at the Fourth Conference on trans-boundary movement of hazardous waste held at Kuching, Malaysia, had indicated its plan to ratify the historic 1995 amendments to the "Basel Ban", pending adoption of the list of hazardous wastes prepared by the technical working group;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether the Organisation for Economic Cooperation of Developed countries has been trying to scuttle or delay the ban; and

(d) the steps being taken to effectively prevent the exports of such wastes to India, indicating the actual